

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR UNITED STATES PATENT**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence address, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **IMPROVED INOCULANT STRAINS OF BRADYRHIZOBIUM JAPONICUM**, the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following is checked:

- ☒ The specification was filed on November 24, 2000, as United States Application No. or PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/US00/32316 and was amended on N/A (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

Under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b), I hereby claim foreign priority benefits of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under Title 35, United States Code, § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, which are listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any International applications having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Applications(s):

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year filed</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
PCT/US00/32316	U.S.	November 24, 2000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e), I hereby claim the benefit of priority of any United States provisional patent applications listed below:

Prior Provisional Application(s):

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
60/167,300	November 24, 1999

Under Title 35, United States Code, § 120, I hereby claim the benefit of priority of any United States patent application(s) or under Title 35, United States Code, § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, which are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International applications(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, and I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 that became available between the filing date of the prior application and the

national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Application(s):

Serial No.

Filing Date

Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned

I hereby appoint as my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute the patent application identified above, and to transact all business connected therewith, in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and all other competent International/Foreign authorities: Stephen A. Becker, Reg. No. 26,527; John G. Bisbikis, Reg. No. 37,095; Daniel Bucca, Reg. No. 42,368; Kenneth L. Cage, Reg. No. 26,151; Jennifer Chen, Reg. No. 42,404; Bernard P. Codd, Reg. No. 46,429; Lawrence T. Cullen, Reg. No. 44,489; Paul Devinsky, Reg. No. 28,553; Margaret M. Duncan, Reg. No. 30,879; Shamita De. Etienne-Cummings, Reg. No. 46,072; Ramyar M. Farid, Reg. No. 46,692; Brian E. Ferguson, Reg. No. 36,801; Michael E. Fogarty, Reg. No. 36,139; John R. Fuisz, Reg. No. 37,327; Willem F. Gadiano, Reg. No. 37,136; Keith E. George, Reg. No. 34,111; Matthew V. Grumbling, Reg. No. 44,427; John A. Hankins, Reg. No. 32,029; Eric J. Kraus, Reg. No. 36,190; Catherine Krupka, Reg. No. 46,227; Jack Q. Lever, Reg. No. 28,149; Raphael V. Lupo, Reg. No. 28,363; Burman Y. Mathis III, Reg. No. 44,907; Michael A. Messina, Reg. No. 33,424; Dawn L. Palmer, Reg. No. 41,238; Joseph H. Paquin, Jr., Reg. No. 31,647; Scott D. Paul, Reg. No. 42,984; William D. Pegg, Reg. No. 42,988; Robert L. Price, Reg. No. 22,685; Gene Z. Robinson, Reg. No. 33,351; Mahshid D. Saadat, Reg. No. 48,218; Joy Ann G. Serauskas, Reg. No. 27,952; David A. Spenard, Reg. No. 37,449; Arthur J. Steiner, Reg. No. 26,106; David L. Stewart, Reg. No. 37,578; Wesley Strickland, Reg. No. 44,363; Michael D. Switzer, Reg. No. 39,552; David M. Tennant, Reg. No. 48,362; Daniel S. Trainor, Reg. No. 43,959; Kelli N. Watson, Reg. No. 47,170; Cameron K. Weiffenbach, Reg. No. 44,488; Aaron Weissstuch, Reg. No. 41,557; Edward J. Wise, Reg. No. 34,523; Jeffrey A. Woller, Reg. No. 48,041; Alexander V. Yampolsky, Reg. No. 36,324; and Robert W. Zelnick, Reg. No. 36,976, all of McDermott, Will & Emery.

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from University of Maryland, its legal representatives, successors or assigns, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application, and in all other competent International/Foreign authorities regarding the above-identified invention, without direct communication with me.

PLEASE DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE AND TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

WILLEM F. GADIANO, ESQ.
MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY
600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone No.: (202) 756-8373

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of First/Sole Inventor: Arvind A. Bhagwat
Residence Address: 12106 Lemar Court, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904
Post Office Address: Same as Residence Address
Citizenship: United States

Inventor's signature: _____

Date: _____

2.00

Full name of Second Inventor: Donald L. Keister
Residence Address: 12408 Silverbirch Lane, Laurel, Maryland 20708
Post Office Address: Same as Residence Address
Citizenship: United States

MD.

Inventor's signature: _____

Donald L. Keister

Date: 11/16/01

11/16/01 11:16 AM

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the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

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<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned</u>
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Full name of First/Sole Inventor: Arvind A. Bhagwat
Residence Address: 12106 Lemar Court, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904
Post Office Address: Same as Residence Address
Citizenship: United States

Inventor's signature:

Date: 11-16-01

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Residence Address: 12408 Silverbirch Lane, Laurel, Maryland 20708
Post Office Address: Same as Residence Address
Citizenship: United States

Inventor's signature:

Date: _____